

Press Release

4th July 2007

Niche technology law firm, Technology Law Alliance, wins appointment to OGCbuying.solutions' Legal services Framework Agreement for IT, telecommunications and ecommerce work.

Technology Law Alliance (TLA) has been awarded a Catalyst Framework Agreement for Legal Services with OGCbuying.solutions, having been successful during a competitive procurement process fully compliant with EU Directives. The framework agreement allows customers throughout the public sector to place orders with TLA under standard terms and conditions, in respect of the provision of legal advice relating to IT, telecommunications and ecommerce work. This appointment comes as part of a wider refresh of the panels of law firms supplying legal services to government departments and other public sector bodies in England and Wales.

TLA is a leading specialist technology law practice, and the appointment marks another step in the firm's drive in competing head on with the biggest law firms in the country. The firm has already received national and international recognition for its expertise and quality and, above all, for the pragmatic and cost-effective delivery of legal services. The firm's rapidly-growing reputation is noted by the major legal publications such as the Legal 500 and Chambers Guide to the Legal Profession.

The firm originally made the headlines with its launch by senior technology lawyers, Jagvinder Kang and Stephen Ollerenshaw, following their departure from Wragge & Co; its coup in 2003 of recruiting heavyweight outsourcing lawyer, Gavin Wakefield (former UK Head of Legal of global technology giant, Capgemini); and the appointment in 2005 of Jeremy Newton, a renowned City partner in the IT law team at City firm Nabarro Nathanson.

The TLA team has an extensive track record in advising clients on public sector IT contracts. Newton, who will act as the account manager for OGCbuying.solutions, previously led the team advising the Metropolitan Police Authority on the contracts for the second-generation outsourcing of its IT infrastructure, in a 7-year contract valued at over £600m, and has also worked in the past with the Home Office and with HM Treasury (as part of the PFI Taskforce). Wakefield was the lead lawyer for Capgemini on its successful bid for the Inland Revenue's ASPIRE deal: a contract estimated to be worth in the order of £4 billion over its initial 10-year term. All the directors have comparable experience in relation to advising central and local government and Executive Agencies on major contracts relating to IT outsourcing and systems procurement.

Newton comments: "We are delighted by this appointment. The team at Technology Law Alliance has outstanding experience of public sector IT projects, and we are very pleased that this has been

recognised by OGCbuying.solutions. This appointment improves the firm's access to the public sector market. At the same time, it gives the public sector buyers of legal services a strong message about the quality and value for money of the TLA offering. This is a terrific accolade for the firm and will clearly bolster our existing profile and reputation."

TLA operates from its offices in London and Birmingham, and already has an enviable client list: existing clients include well known IT sector names such as Capgemini, Hitachi Data Systems and Trafficmaster, as well as buyers of IT systems and services like F&C Asset Management, NSPCC and Crest Nicholson.

Newton concludes by saying: "Our quality and cost proposition are formidable. We already punch well above our weight in terms of the calibre of our clients and the quality of the work that they ask us to handle. Since we set up in 2003, we have had one very simple goal: to be recognised as the leading specialist technology law firm in the country. This appointment to the Catalist Framework is an acknowledgement of what we have achieved so far, and we believe that it also represents a major step towards achieving that goal."

ENDS

Notes for Editors

Technology Law Alliance was established on 2 January 2003, and is a specialist technology law practice focussing on IT, outsourcing, e-commerce and data protection work. The firm provides a national service, with offices in London and in Birmingham. The firm acts for both suppliers and purchasers of IT and outsourcing products and services. Supplier clients include Capgemini UK plc, Hitachi Data Systems, and Trafficmaster. User clients include financial services company F&C Asset Management, child protection charity NSPCC, and housebuilder Crest Nicholson. The firm has advised on over £3 billion of IT and outsourcing transactions in the last 3 years, and it has the only technology law team in the UK where all of the partners are independently recognised by the legal press as being leaders in their field (specifically in the following legal directories: Chambers & Partners; Legal 500; UK Legal Experts).

OGCbuying.solutions is the trading arm of the Office of Government Commerce (OGC), which is itself an office of HM Treasury. The Office of Government Commerce is responsible for improving value for money by driving up standards and capability in procurement, from commodity buying to the delivery of major capital projects, maximising the effective use of 60% of Government spending and a £30 billion property estate.

A new Government strategy launched in January 2007, Transforming Government Procurement, highlighted the central importance of procurement in delivering high-quality public services and best value for money. OGC is tasked with delivering this transformation, and with driving up standards and procurement capability across central Government. The OGC will do this through:

- Setting the right procurement standards and ensuring they are met;
- Capitalising on the Government's collective buying power to achieve value for money;
- Developing a cadre of senior procurement professionals across government to drive forward best practice procurement solutions.

OGCbuying.solutions, launched in April 2001, provides public sector procurement professionals with a route to the products and services they need to maximise procurement efficiency and value for money. Its contracts and framework agreements offer substantial savings through significant buying power, economies of scale and strategic partnerships. These savings are counted towards the Efficiency Review target. Rigorous tendering and evaluation processes ensure that products and services are checked for quality, price competitiveness, fitness for purpose and compliance with statutory requirements. These products and services are available through OGCbuying.solutions Catalist framework agreements and Managed Services.

The **Catalist** brand is designed to unify the framework agreements under one identifiable and recognisable brand name. Catalist incorporates a series of framework agreements which have been developed to offer our customers a broad range of goods and services aligned to their particular needs. Managed Services are predominantly more sophisticated, requiring expertise and additional support from OGCbuying.solutions.

For further information please contact:

Jeremy Newton

Director, London office

T: 0870 730 5554

E: jeremy.newton@TLawA.co.uk

Stephen Ollerenshaw

Director, Birmingham office

T: 0870 730 5552

E: stephen.ollerenshaw@TLawA.co.uk